

NATIONAL IDLING REDUCTION NETWORK NEWS



October 2005

LOAN PROGRAMS AND SOLICITATIONS FOR FUNDING AND AWARDS

Arkansas Provides Small Business Loans for Idling Reduction Equipment

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has teamed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) SmartWay Transport Partnership to provide information on fuel saving and idling reduction technologies as well as low-interest loans to Arkansas truckers. In September 2005, the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA) sent letters to over 2,000 of its Arkansas members with information provided by the SmartWay Partnership explaining how the installation of proven idling reduction technologies can help them decrease fuel usage and minimize air pollution. A simple and instructive guide was included to assist the small business owner in understanding the amount of investment, cost savings, and return for specific technologies. Information on the ADEQ Small Business Environmental Loan Program was also included to provide funding for the trucking companies to purchase the equipment. The ADEQ Loan Program provides low-interest loans to Arkansas small businesses to help them meet environmental requirements, minimize waste, or prevent pollution.

The goal of this innovative partnership is to realize multiple benefits in energy efficiency, conservation, and air quality. For more information on the Loan Program and its work with SmartWay, please contact Darren Morrissey at ADEQ (501-682-0824) or go to the ADEQ Business Assistance Program website (<http://www.adeg.state.ar.us/poa/businessasst.htm>). Information on the EPA SmartWay Partnership can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/smartway/>. Source: Darren Morrissey, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

Applications for Diesel Retrofit Grants Sought in Washington State

The Washington State Department of Ecology requests applications from local governments in Washington State for diesel emissions retrofit grants. This program will assist cities of all sizes to buy and install emission control devices on heavy-duty diesel vehicles, such as garbage trucks, dump and maintenance trucks, and transit buses. The Department expects \$2 million to be available and hopes to make up to 100 awards and retrofit 1,000 vehicles statewide. Responses are due on Friday, December 2, 2005. For more information, please contact Ann Byfield at (360) 407-6851 or go to <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/cars/DieselGrantPage.htm>. Source: Laurie Brown, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Western Regional Office

NYSERDA Releases PON for Clean Diesel and Environmental Technology

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) Program Opportunity Notice (PON) 944 is seeking proposals to support the development, demonstration, and commercialization of innovative, energy-efficient, clean diesel and environmental technologies. Two categories are sought: Clean Diesel Technology Development and Environmental Product and Process Technology Development. An amount of \$650,000 has been allocated for projects in each category for a total of \$1.3 million. Proposals are due on Tuesday, November 15, 2005. For more information, please go to <http://www.nyserda.org/funding/funding.asp?i=2>. Source: <http://www.dieselforum.org>

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EPA Offers \$3 Million for Environmental Education

EPA is now soliciting applications for about 150 grants having a value of \$10,000-\$15,000 each. Subject to availability of funds, the total amount available is about \$3 million, and there is a cost-sharing requirement of 25 percent to be provided by the applicant. Proposals are due to EPA on Wednesday, November 23, 2005, with an expected start date of July 1, 2006. Eligible entities are educators, education institutions, public/state environmental agencies, and non-profit organizations. Further information can be found in a September 30, 2005, *Federal Register* notice (<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/pdf/fy2006frsolnotice.pdf>) and EPA's website (<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grantsols.html>). Source: Jodie Rizzuto, EPA Region 1

TERP Grant Applications are Being Accepted for Austin Area

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) announced that it is accepting applications for Emission Reduction Incentive Grants for projects in the Austin area. These grants are available under the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) incentive programs for projects that will reduce the emission of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) from internal combustion engines. To be eligible for funding, the grant-funded vehicle or equipment must operate at least 75 percent of the time in the four counties making up the Austin Early Action Compact Area (Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson). Projects dealing with on-site electrification and on-vehicle electrification are among the types of projects that TERP is seeking to fund.

To obtain more information and to download electronic copies of the application forms, please go to the TERP web site at <http://www.terpgrants.org>. A free grant application workshop on this solicitation will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2005, in Austin. If you have any questions or you need a hard copy of the application forms, please contact TERP staff at (800) 919-TERP (8377). Applications are due on Friday, December 2, 2005. The application period for projects in other eligible counties will be announced later this year.

CARB Solicits Ideas for Fiscal 2006-2007 Research Plan

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has issued a program announcement to solicit research suggestions for its research program. These research ideas, which may become the basis for public solicitations or interagency agreements in the summer and fall of 2006, are due to CARB on Thursday, December 8, 2005. Two-page descriptions of ideas are welcome in several areas, including concepts that advance the development of technologies associated with zero or near-zero emissions such as vehicle and engine technologies and hardware aftertreatment control strategies. Further information is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/apr/ideas/solicit.htm>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FINANCIAL AWARDS

DOE Recommends \$5.4 Million in SEP Awards for Clean Cities Projects

In September 2005, DOE recommended more than \$5.4 million in funding for 70 cost-shared Clean Cities projects. That amount, made available through the State Energy Program Special Projects activity, is \$1.4 million more than originally planned. Final awards

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are scheduled for fall 2005, and funds will be delivered to the State Energy Offices for disbursement. Six of the 70 projects deal with idling reduction projects and will share \$400,000 in funding. They are:

- Deploying and evaluating 16 onboard auxiliary power units in the Li-Way Transfer and Storage commercial trucking fleet in Georgia
- Retrofitting 35 school buses with Espar coolant heaters in the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District in New York
- Installing 30 Cummins ProHeat on-board electrification units on Styline heavy-duty delivery vehicles in Indiana
- Installing six engine pre-heaters for diesel-powered passenger shuttles in a shopping district and launching an associated public-awareness campaign in Colorado
- Installing an electrification system at the Clarence Central School District bus garage to provide start-up power to engine block heaters already installed in approximately 100 buses in New York
- Installing Clever Devices BusLink switches that automatically activate ProHeat auxiliary heaters in a fleet of approximately 100 transit buses in Maryland

For further information, please go to

http://www.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/ccn/progs/story.cgi/WHATS_NEW/495/0/A. Source: Wendy Dafoe, National Renewable Energy Laboratory

SmartWay Makes \$5 Million in Awards

EPA's SmartWay Transport Partnership announced on October 11, 2005, that it was making 5 grant awards totaling \$5 million to nonprofit organizations and States. These grants will support a first-of-its kind initiative that deploys a wide variety of idle reduction technologies on trucks and at truck stops and ports across the nation. EPA expects that the grants will spur development and commercialization of idle-reduction technologies that yield even greater benefits as their use becomes more widespread. The grants are being awarded to the following entities:

- Texas Transportation Institute for "Truck Engine Idle Reduction Technology Demonstration Program" -- \$3 million
- Ohio Department of Development for "Ohio and Midwest Truck Stop Electrification Corridors Demonstration, Evaluation, and Development Project" -- \$500,000
- Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority (Oregon) for "Everybody Wins - Phase II" -- \$500,000
- American Transportation Research Institute for "Demonstration of Integrated Mobile Idle Reduction Solutions" -- \$500,000
- North Carolina State University for "Truck Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) Prep Kit Design and Installation" -- \$500,000

Further information is available at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r6/press.nsf/name/SmartWayGrant> and <http://www.epa.gov/smartway/idle-demo.htm>. Source: Paul Bubbosh, EPA

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Shurepower Wins Climate Trust Award to Electrify Truck Stops in Pacific Northwest

The Climate Trust -- a nonprofit environmental organization funded by several cities, corporations, and utility companies in the Pacific Northwest -- has awarded \$450,000 to Shurepower, a New York-based company, to launch a truck stop electrification network in Oregon and Washington. Shurepower plans to install its freestanding power pedestals at seven truck stops in both States by June 2006. These pedestals are mounted near each parking space and are connected to a control kiosk. Truck drivers plug into the pedestal for access to electric power, high-speed internet access, phone service, and cable television. For further information, please see http://www.landlinemag.com/todays_news/Daily/2005/Oct05/100505.htm#5, <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0502025.pdf>, and <http://www.shurepower.com/tse.htm>. Sources: Jeff Kim, Shurepower, and Frank Van Haren, Washington State Department of Ecology

More Awards Announced in Pennsylvania Small Business Advantage Program

Trucking companies and owner-operators received about 40 percent of the \$488,830 and 47 of the 97 awards recently announced by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Small Business Advantage Program. A 50-50 match is required, and to date more than \$1 million has been awarded to over 200 businesses throughout Pennsylvania.

Funding is still available for the program, and grant applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis through January 6, 2006. Applications for the Small Business Advantage Grant Program can be downloaded from DEP's web site at <http://www.dep.state.pa.us>, keyword: "SBAdvantage." To receive an application package by mail, call (717) 783-8411 or e-mail the department at epadventuregrant@state.pa.us.

CONFERENCES, NON-REGULATORY MEETINGS, AND WORKSHOPS

Seminar on "Heavy Duty Fleets: Retrofitted, Refueled and Funded for a Cleaner Ohio"

On Wednesday, November 30, 2005, the Ohio Department of Transportation (DOT) Auditorium in Columbus, Ohio, will be the site for a 1-day technology and information seminar on improving air quality by installing pollution controls, switching to cleaner fuels, and reducing idling. This meeting is hosted by Ohio DOT and presented by EPA's Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the Ohio Environmental Council, and the Central Ohio Clean Fuels Coalition.

The cost is \$20 before November 10 and \$30 after that date. To register and obtain further information, please visit the event web site at http://www.theoec.org/cage_diesel_Nov05Conf.html.

Source: Julie Magee, EPA Region 5

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SCHOOL BUSES

Five More School Bus Companies in Metro New York City Fined for Idling

New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer and Congressman Charles Rangel (D-NY) announced agreements with five transportation companies to reduce air pollution from idling school buses in the New York City metropolitan area. Under the agreements, the five bus companies, which together operate more than 1,700 school buses in New York City and Westchester and Nassau Counties, will:

- Implement a "no idling" policy that prohibits unnecessary idling for any length of time within one block of a school
- Establish an operations plan at bus depots to eliminate excessive idling
- Implement a monitoring program for 3 years
- Report all compliance activities and findings to the Attorney General's Office
- Pay penalties totaling \$61,425

New York State law restricts bus idling to no more than 5 consecutive minutes, and New York City law restricts idling to no more than 3 consecutive minutes. Buses from these five companies repeatedly violated these idling laws by idling for as long as 15-20 minutes in front of schools and in residential neighborhoods. As a result of these latest agreements, 75 percent of New York City's school bus fleet is now covered by anti-idling agreements. For more information, please go to http://www.oag.state.ny.us/press/2005/sep/sep26a_05.html. Source: Joe Tario, NYSERDA

CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE

Rep. Granger Reintroduces Tax Credit Bill for Idling Reduction Equipment

Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX) has reintroduced a bill entitled "Idling Reduction Tax Credit Act of 2005," which would allow a tax credit of up to \$3,500 for each truck outfitted with idling reduction devices. She had proposed the bill in 2004, but it was never passed. Under Congresswoman Granger's legislation, the EPA and the Secretary of Energy would certify which of the alternative idling reduction devices meet appropriate standards to qualify for the tax credit. For more information, please see http://www.landlinemag.com/todays_news/Daily/2005/Oct05/100705.htm and <http://kaygranger.house.gov/News.asp?FormMode=Detail&ID=220>. Source: Paul Abelson, Land Line magazine

REGULATORY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

Update on National State Idling Reduction Model Law

After analyzing comments from five regional workshops, EPA has just completed a draft of the national State idling reduction model law. Once the agency finishes its review, the draft and associated discussion points will be published in the *Federal Register* for public comment in the next few weeks. The comment period will be 30 days. You can find the *Federal Register* at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/>. Source: Paul Bubbosh, EPA

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CARB Rules Out Idling Sleeper Berths

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) announced on October 24, 2005, that it had passed a two-part regulation that adds heavy-duty trucks equipped with sleeper berths to the current prohibition on diesel engines idling for more than 5 minutes. CARB also requires that 2008 and subsequent model diesel engines be equipped with a non-programmable system that shuts down the engine after idling 5 minutes. The sleeper berth part of the rule will apply to current and future trucks, including those that meet the low-emissions EPA 2007 and 2010 requirements. The rule will be effective 2008. The sleeper berth component will be applicable to trucks registered in and out-of-state. It allows the use of alternative technologies that provide for cab comfort, so long as they are CARB-approved for having zero or very low pollution emissions. For more information, please go to http://fleetowner.com/news/carb_idle_truck_sleeper_berth_rule_102505/ and <http://www.arb.ca.gov/newsrel/nr102405.htm>.

OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST

FleetSmart to Hold Another Idle-Free Zone Campaign for Heavy Vehicles

Natural Resources Canada (NRC) will promote idle-free zones at 86 locations through its FleetSmart program from November 7, 2005, through February 19, 2006. The "Idle-Free Quiet Zone" campaign for heavy vehicles was conceived to raise awareness in the trucking sector about the harmful effects of unnecessary engine idling. The Canadian website offers success stories from many cities along with materials that could be used to promote idling reduction activities. For more information, please go to <http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/transportation/fleetsmart.cfm?attr=16>.

Canadian Program Helps Fleets Discover Costs of Idling

The Canadian "Repair Our Air Fleet Challenge" has helped the transportation industry there realize how many millions of fuel dollars are being wasted annually by not monitoring the costs of idling. According to Darlene Varaleau of Power Projects in Toronto, "Only those fleets that regularly download their engine data and enforce a corporate idling policy optimize their fuel efficiency. Fleets throughout southern Ontario are still reporting 40-50 percent idling (as a percentage of operating time) despite 5 years of public information campaigns, 48 days of smog alerts, and repeated health warnings from the Ontario Medical Association."

A challenge is currently underway among fleets whose participants are urged to be the best-in-class by having the lowest incidence of idling within their fleet category.

The categories include long- and short-haul trucks, motor coaches, transit buses, and school buses. Power Projects launched the Repair Our Air Fleet Challenge in 2000 with funding from NRC and active support and leadership from Toronto Hydro and Enbridge. For more information, please go to <http://www.repairourair.org>. Source: Darlene Varaleau, Power Projects Inc.

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Back Issues of National Idling Reduction Network News Available On-Line

If you are a new subscriber or have misplaced an issue of this newsletter, all issues are now located at http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/resources/fcvt_national_idling.shtml.

Summary of State Anti-Idling Regulations

Look at the document at the following site for the most up-to-date list of regulations in States and municipalities that cover anti-idling regulations. <http://www.atri-online.org/2005.ATRI.IdlingCompendium.pdf>. If your State or municipality has changed anything listed here or if it is in error, please let us know, and we'll make sure to inform our readership. This newsletter is also a place to let people know that you are thinking of adding or changing regulations and are soliciting comments.

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